



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 29, 2007

*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

SACATON MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS FOR VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER

PHOENIX – On January 26, 2007, Eugene Blackwater, 47, of Sacaton, Ariz. was sentenced to 10 years in prison by U.S. District Judge Earl H. Carroll. Blackwater had pleaded guilty to Voluntary Manslaughter for the death of Lisa Manuel.

On July 15, 2005, Blackwater was driving a vehicle on the Gila River Indian Reservation while intoxicated to a blood alcohol level of approximately .176. He was angry, upset and depressed while driving and made a statement to his then girlfriend that he wanted to kill himself. He made a statement to the effect of "here comes a car" and "I'm just going to hit it." Blackwater then hit the victim's vehicle in a head-on collision and the victim died at the scene as a result of injuries she sustained. Manuel was the mother of two children.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Gila River Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigations. The prosecution was handled by Sharon K. Sexton, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-225-PHX-EHC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-029(Blackwater)

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